

MINUTES

**CITY OF GLENDALE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING #1
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5850 W. GLENDALE AVENUE
GLENDALE, ARIZONA**

**Wednesday, December 3, 2014
6:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cherie Hudson, Chair
Pattie Johnston, Vice Chair
Chuck Jared
Matthew Versluis
John Torres
Marcellous Sanders
Ronald Jauregui
Cathy Cheshier
Dorlisa Dvorak

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sharyn Nesbitt

STAFF PRESENT: Gilbert Lopez, Revitalization Manager
Mona Francis, Revitalization Supervisor
Elizabeth Garcia, Revitalization Coordinator

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Committee-members introduced themselves.

III. Public Comment

Chair Hudson opened the floor to public comment on the FY 2015-19 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the FY 2015-16 Annual Action Plan.

No comments were made.

Chair Hudson closed the floor to public comment on the FY 2015-19 Five Year Consolidated Plan and the FY 2015-16 Annual Action Plan.

IV. FY 2015-16 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Emergency Solution Grants (ESG) Funding Requests

Chair Hudson made opening remarks. Chair Hudson explained that each agency representative would be allowed 4 minutes for presentation and then time for Committee questions if necessary.

Mr. Lopez introduced staff and thanked the Committee-members for their participation and the agency representatives for their attendance at the hearings. Mr. Lopez provided a brief financial summary of the projected federal funds available for FY 2015-16. Mr. Lopez stated that the amounts available are based on last year's CDBG funds received. Grants awarded will be adjusted prorata based upon exact amounts received from the federal government.

- Public Services: Estimated \$312,000 available with \$799,555 in grant requests
- Physical Improvements: Estimated \$1,305,073 available with \$1,305,073 in grant requests
- HOME: Estimated \$258,694 available with \$255,000 in grant requests
- ESG: Estimated \$157,097 available with \$237,265 in grant requests

Mr. Lopez stated that the Committee would review the applications and make recommendations to City Council for grant funding. Mr. Lopez noted that staff has performed all technical application reviews and is available for questions during the hearing for clarifying questions. Chair Hudson asked if any of the presenters needed an English to Spanish translator. There were no requests.

Representatives from various agencies made presentations in regards to funding requests. A total of 19 funding requests were presented by 13 different agencies.

Presentations for the following programs were made:

1. City of Glendale Community Action Program – Eviction Program - \$125,000 request

Ms. Rebecca Daniel, Program Administrator, stated that the goal of the program is to prevent homelessness via emergency rent or mortgage assistance to City of Glendale residents who meet the required eligibility guidelines. Ms. Daniel stressed that for each applicant, various requirements are verified such as proof of income, social security number, and citizenship. Ms. Daniel stated that many clients need assistance because of a recent layoff or reduction of income, a recent family crisis or a serious medical issue. Ms. Daniel stressed that 100% of the funds received will go toward helping City of Glendale residents. Ms. Daniel anticipates that 125 residents will be helped with the CDBG funds with a \$1,000 maximum monthly cap. Ms. Daniel stressed that the need for this type of assistance is very high and appreciated the CDBG funds received in the past.

The Committee had no questions.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Daniel for her presentation.

2. Homeward Bound – Homeless Family Services – Glendale - \$20,877 request

Ms. Tracey Lane and Ms. Karen Bretz were presented. Ms. Lane discussed the following highlights:

- The agency provides transitional housing to families experiencing homelessness, job loss, domestic violence and other situations impeding independence. The goal of the program is to

provide families with the skills necessary to become self-reliant and break generational homelessness cycles.

- All families have access to childcare and emergency food and clothing. Case management is provided with a focus on life skills, social services, budgeting and long-term employment.
- 75% of the families in the program secure permanent housing.
- Families contribute 30% of their adjusted gross income to participate in the transitional housing program. The rest of their income is used to pay down debt and save money in order to eventually move into permanent housing.
- Glendale has been a valued supporter of the program and is greatly appreciated.

Committee-member Sanders inquired as to how long a family could remain in transitional housing. Ms. Lane stated that it takes approximately 12 to 24 months for a family to secure and maintain meaningful employment.

Committee-member Torres inquired as to the number of families in the program. Ms. Lane replied that there are 5 scattered site units in Glendale and there are 7 units in the Thunderbird Village that serve Glendale residents. Committee-member Torres asked about the referral process. Ms. Lane stated that referrals are received from shelters, churches, other agencies and past clients.

Committee-member Versluis asked about the types of jobs the residents are preparing for. Ms. Lane explained that many of the residents have minimum wage jobs, which makes it hard to budget for a family. Ms. Lane stated that the case managers focus on improving the skill levels of the residents in order to obtain better employment.

Chair Hudson inquired as to how the grant funds will be spent. Ms. Lane explained that the funds would be used for maintenance of the properties, repair work, insurance costs, HOA fees and landscape maintenance.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Lane and Ms. Bretz for the presentation.

3. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Keeping Families Together - \$74,750 request

Ms. Roseanne Gutierrez, of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, provided the following highlights of the program:

- The agency appreciates the support from the City of Glendale over the past 9 years.
- The agency has been serving Glendale since 1946.
- The program is run 100% by volunteers, no paid staff and no overhead.
- Nearly 100% of the money received goes to assisting the clients. A small amount of money is used for a financial audit as required.
- The agency provides assistance with needs such as rent, food, utilities, medical, dental, prescriptions and clothing.
- Collaborations are made with other agencies and church parishioners donate to the program.
- Income level, verification of identity/citizenships, and City of Glendale residency are verified.

Committee-member Johnston asked if the audit was outsourced. Ms. Gutierrez replied in the positive stating that an experienced auditor was used via referral by City staff.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Gutierrez for her time.

4. Boy Scouts of America, Grand Canyon Council – Scouting’s Traditional Character Development Program - \$5,000 request

Mr. Frank Yoke provided information on the grant request and program, which included the following information:

- The Boy Scouts of America prepares the future leaders of America.
- The troop consists of children from the Glendale Youth Project. The location of the troop meetings will be moved due to a proposed school closure.
- Through the experiences at the Boys Scouts, it is hoped that boys will give back to their community, make good choices, and become good citizens and role models.
- The funds requested will be used for the scholarships for boys to attend summer camp, supplies and volunteer coordination. Summer camp provides a very positive experience for the boys.

Committee-member Versluis asked how many boys from Glendale are in the program. Mr. Yoke noted that there are approximately 80 boys in the program currently and more funds would help to expand the program to more kids. Committee-member Versluis asked if there was a high turnover of kids in the troop. Mr. Yoke replied in the negative, adding that 78% of the kids re-register for a second year.

Chair Hudson thanked Mr. Yoke for his presentation.

5. St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance – Glendale Home Food Delivery - \$20,000 request

6. St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance – Emergency Food Box Program - \$20,000 request

Mr. John Kozyra, Community Relations Manager, gave a presentation which included the following information:

- 26% of Glendale residents live within the guidelines to receive food assistance.
- 40% of Glendale children live in poverty.
- Last year, St. Mary’s delivered 5 million pounds of food to the City of Glendale. Of this, over 3 million pounds was delivered to Hope for Hunger. St. Mary’s works with 40 agencies, however, Hope for Hunger is the largest.
- Over 200 boxes of food were delivered to homebound seniors last month alone.
- For the next FY, it is estimated that 217 senior food boxes will be delivered each month.
- There are two staff drivers who deliver the food to the homebound seniors. These drivers also talk with the seniors and report any concerns.
- The funds for the homebound seniors will be used for driver salaries.
- The Emergency Food Box Program provides a box of staple foods such as bread, meat, vegetables, fruit, cereal, and pasta. This box can last 3 to 4 days for a family of 4. Most of the clients served are the working poor. Grant funds for this program will be used for food transportation costs and supplemental food.

Committee-member Torres asked for a list of homes which are receiving homebound food delivery. Ms. Francis stated that staff has reviewed and verified the delivery list, which will be provided to the Committee.

Chair Hudson thanked Mr. Kozyra for his presentation.

7. Heart for the City – At Risk Youth Community Center/Community Garden Program - \$150,000 request

Mr. Joe Eriquez, Community Relations Manager, gave a presentation which included the following information:

- The passion of the agency is inner city kids, many who are living in poverty and with difficult family challenges.
- Eight years ago, the agency started with an inner city football project, which has provided an outlet for the kids. The coaches have been mentors to the children, who were seen to do better in school.
- The agency runs the free breakfast and lunch program during the summer at Rose Lane Park.
- The community garden is collaboration with the local fire department for the land lot. There will be citrus trees, plants and a gazebo. The kids will work the garden, learn about planting life cycles and grow food to be eaten at home. Aside from the farming, the kids will be encouraged to communicate with their peers and mentors while working the garden.
- Stories of children in the program were shared.
- The agency uses funds to transport kids from school to the various agency programs: nearly \$25,000 annually is used for gas and insurance.
- It is estimated that \$5,000 to \$6,000 annually will be needed in seed and water for the garden.

Committee-member Jared suggested the agency contact the Arizona Coyotes for potential support. Mr. Eriquez stated that the Coyotes have already been assisting. The Coyotes organization has provided a 15-passenger van and the agency is working on developing an inline skating program with the Coyotes as well.

Committee-member Versluis asked about the kids' interest in the garden. Mr. Eriquez stated that 50 kids participated in the lot preparation day and they are very excited in the garden.

Committee-member Jauregui inquired about other sources of funding. Mr. Eriquez replied that other donors include private parties, churches, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Arizona Coyotes, John C. Lincoln Hospital and others.

Chair Hudson thanked Mr. Eriquez for his presentation.

8. Foundation for Senior Living – Glendale Adult Day Health Services Center - \$14,500 request

Ms. Pam Acton, along with Ms. Honey Beaudry, provided the information on the agency's grant request, which included the following:

- The agency has been in the west valley since 1974.

- There are 60 participants daily at the adult day care center, which meets the social and psychological needs of seniors and adults with disabilities.
- The structured programs provide a safe environment for the participants Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Snacks and meals are provided.
- The majority of the participants are 60 to 80 years old.
- 60% of the Glendale residents have less than \$25,000 of annual income.

Ms. Beaudry shared a short story of her brother, disabled by a traumatic brain injury, who attended the center for 18 years.

Committee-member Sanders inquired about the center's location. Ms. Acton stated that the agency rents 2 building from the Salvation Army at their complex on Northern Avenue.

It was asked if the agency works with other partners. Ms. Acton explained that the agency has other programs around the valley and detailed information will be provided to staff.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Acton and Ms. Beaudry for their time.

9. Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) – Vista Colina Emergency Family Shelter - \$20,000 request
10. Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) – Family Shelter - \$100,000 request
11. Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) – Single Adult Shelter - \$72,500 request
12. Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) – Emergency Shelter for Single Adults - \$50,000 request
13. Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) – Rapid Re-Housing Services - \$70,000 request

Mr. Mark Holleran, Chief Executive Officer, thanked the City of Glendale and the Committee for its past support of the CASS programs. Mr. Holleran shared the following information:

- This current fiscal year, CASS will serve 8,000 unduplicated homeless men, women and children. The homeless are very transient, moving around the valley. Therefore, the homeless problem is a regional issue, not specific to only one city.
- CASS averages 1,000 individuals nightly at the shelters. This figure has increased from a year ago.
- Of special concern is the growing 18-24 year old homeless population. Three years ago, 300 of this age group were served at the shelters, and now it is up to 800. Most adults in this age group want to work, but can only obtain minimum wage jobs or cannot get experience in their chosen fields. Older workers are not leaving the job market and so it is harder for younger workers to find employment.
- Twenty-four CASS staff members live in the City of Glendale.
- Last year, over 1,000 clients were placed in jobs and over 1,000 clients were found permanent housing.

Committee-member Versluis wondered if the agency's audit issues were resolved. Mr. Holleran replied in the positive. Committee-member Versluis asked if there has been an increase in clients due to substance abuse issues. Mr. Holleran explained that there has been a significant increase in the LGBT population of the 18-24 year old age. Mr. Holleran added that nearly 50% of these

young adults attempt suicide. Mr. Holleran stressed that there has been an increase in the elderly, disabled and terminally ill clients with no family.

Chair Hudson thanked Mr. Holleran for his presentation.

14. Valley Life – Grief Counseling - \$5,000 request

15. Valley Life – Renovations/Special Needs Group Homes - \$69,070 request

Mr. Jim Anderson provided the information on the agency's grant requests, which included the following:

- The agency serves 55 Glendale residents in 12 group homes for the developmentally disabled.
- Grief counseling is necessary as residents are getting older and experiencing senior disorders as well as depression and anxiety. Counseling helps residents maintain emotional stability.
- Grant funds are also requested for renovations of group homes built between 1971 and 1995. Renovations include: electrical upgrades, installation of energy efficient windows, installation of security doors/improvements, removal of block wall at one home, removal of old carpeting and installation of tile, interior painting of 2 homes and exterior painting of 2 homes. These improvements will increase the safety of the homes and enhance the residents' quality of life.

Committee-member Torres inquired as to who maintains the yards and exterior of the homes. Mr. Anderson stated that a landscaper, agency employees, contractors and also residents who participate in the vocation program maintain the homes. Committee-member Torres complimented the condition of the homes.

Committee-member Jared suggested contacting Habitat for Humanity regarding repairs. Mr. Anderson noted that Habitat for Humanity recently donated a new kitchen for one of the Phoenix homes.

Committee-member Torres suggested approaching ABIL regarding home repairs. Mr. Anderson will follow up with the suggestion.

Chair Hudson thanked Mr. Anderson for his presentation.

16. Community Bridges, Inc. – Mobile Community Outreach and Crisis Stabilization Services in Glendale - \$15,402 request

Ms. Kristen Pollin gave a presentation on the agency and the grant request which included the following highlights:

- The agency has been in existence for 32 years and mainly provides services for those with substance abuse and mental health issues. The agency provides 29 programs statewide in 14 facilities.
- The grant request is for funding to support the outreach team, which works with homeless in crisis. The police and fire departments respond to crises and then contact the agency to come to the site to work with people in need.
- Several years ago, the agency was reduced to one team and would like to add a second outreach team again. This request would fund nearly a full salary of one team member.
- Staff at the agency are very genuine and passionate towards those in need of services.

The Committee had no questions.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Polin for the presentation.

17. Community Legal Services – Legal Solutions to Keep Glendale Residents Housed - \$32,125 request

Ms. Sharon Sergent presented the grant, with details as follows:

- Community Legal Services is a non-profit law firm which provides pro-bono and/or reduced rate legal services to low-income clients.
- Housing issues, such as evictions, utility shut offs, foreclosure, enforcement of housing laws, are specifically addressed.
- CLS is the only no/low cost option to these clients.
- The agency can provide assistance to 321 Glendale residents with the requested funding.

Committee-member Versluis wondered if the agency's audit issues were resolved. Ms. Sergent replied that to her knowledge, they had been but would confirm the situation.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Sergent for the information.

18. Arizona Bridge to Independent Living ABIL –Glendale Home Accessibility Program (GHAP) - \$41,701 request

Mr. Darrel Christenson presented the grant, with details as follows:

- The agency appreciates the past 17 years of support from the City.
- The grant funds requested will be used to complete 12 modification requests for Glendale residents who are seniors or disabled.
- Accessible housing is very important and necessary in the community. Tax payers can save approximately \$29,000 annually by keeping one disabled person in their own home.
- Licensed and bonded contractors are used for the improvements, which include grab bars, raised counters, and raised toilets and sinks.
- The agency requires clients to contribute 10% of the labor and materials. This can be cash, volunteer hours or in kind donation. There is no other program like this in Glendale.

Committee-member Versluis asked for clarification of modifications to rentals. Mr. Christenson stated that a one-year lease must be confirmed and agreement from the landlord must be obtained to make the modifications. Committee-member Versluis commented that the improvements are done at no expense to the landlord, however, benefits the landlord's property. Mr. Christenson agreed but added that the improvements meet a need in the community.

Chair Hudson inquired about a budget deficit. Mr. Christenson stated that the agency always runs at a zero-based budget.

Chair Hudson thanked Mr. Christenson for the presentation.

19. City of Glendale – Community Housing Division – Public Housing Parking Lot Replacement, Repair, and ADA Parking Compliance - \$157,500 request

Ms. Elaine Adamczyk thanked the Committee-members for their time and presented the following information:

- The grant funds will be used to improve the parking areas used by the tenants of public housing and to make curb cuts to sidewalks for ADA compliance. The parking surfaces will have a more stable pavement for safety. Currently the parking lots are in a hazardous condition, especially for the elderly and disabled.
- The goal of the Community Housing Division is to provide safe, decent and sanitary housing to Glendale families. There are 155 units in three complexes. 392 individuals are housed, of which half are under 18 years old. Most are the working poor.
- Over the last few years, the agency has consistently achieved High Performer Status. However, if the parking lots continually decrease in condition, this could jeopardize the rating and amount of federal funds.
- The past support of the Committee is greatly appreciated.

The Committee had no questions.

Chair Hudson thanked Ms. Adamczyk for her presentation.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Lopez announced that representatives from Habitat for Humanity and Hope for Hunger were scheduled to present this evening. However, there may have been some confusion due to the change in meeting dates. Mr. Lopez will contact the representatives and invite them to the next hearing.

Committee-member Torres motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Committee-member Jared made the second. The motion passed 9 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Kazmierczak
Recording Secretary